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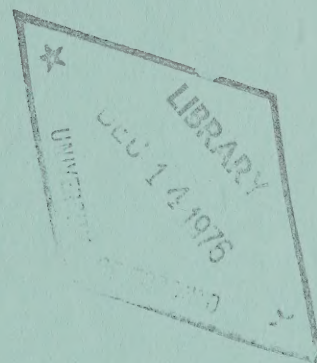
Government
Publications

ONTARIO COUNCIL ON UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS

OPEN MEETING WITH BROCK UNIVERSITY

JUNE 20, 1975

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Appendix 'A' Supplementary Material concerning The Glenridge Campus

ONTARIO COUNCIL ON UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS

MINUTES

5-0198 MEETING

OPEN MEETING WITH BROCK UNIVERSITY

LOCATION

Brock University

DATE AND TIME

June 20, 1975
10:30 a.m.

5-0199 ATTENDANCE

OCUA MEMBERS

J. S. Dupré

W. E. Bagnall

M. A. B. Bush

A. D'Iorio

P. D. Fleck

R. Gerstein

L. Good

W. A. Goyan

D. G. Hill

T. R. Léger

J. F. Mustard

M. F. Orange

R. P. Riffin

H. H. Walker

J. R. Yarnell

OCUA STAFF

J. P. Venton
Executive Secretary

N. E. Simmons
Associate Secretary

BROCK DELEGATION

A. Earp
President

C. Plint
Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science

J. Meeker
Director, Continuing Education

R. McGraw
Dean of Students

P. Woodfield
Director, Physical Plant

M. Chown
Chairman of the Board

S. H. Irvine
Dean, College of Education

J. Hogan
University Librarian

T. Varcoe
Comptroller

P. Ouellette
President, Students' Union

A. Houston
Chairman, Department of
Biological Sciences

A. Lowenberger
Director of Physical Education and
Recreation

J. McEwen
Professor of History

R. Robb
Assistant Professor of Economics

G. Kidson
Chairman, Department of
Physics

W. Matheson
Assistant Professor of
Politics

J. Miller
Associate Professor of
Chemistry

INTRODUCTION

Supplementary material concerning the Glenridge Campus and a comparison of performance records of grade 12 and non-grade 12 entrants was distributed. The President, in his opening remarks requested OCUA advice as to how Brock should proceed with the Glenridge problem.

FORMULA REVISIONi) Enrolment Desensitization

In Brock's brief it had been urged that new or recently approved programmes be exempted from any formula in which funding was diminished for growth. The delegation amplified this suggestion by noting that without full funding start-up of new programmes would be delayed if not impossible. It was urged full funding should apply to all years of a new programme. Identification of programmes which would fall into this category would not be difficult at the graduate level due to the appraisals process, but at the undergraduate level such a scheme might necessitate the introduction of procedures for full funding approval of new undergraduate programmes.

Brock had not investigated the University of Western Ontario's proposal for a formula using a three year rolling enrolment average and it was unknown if such an approach would be beneficial to Brock. The delegation indicated that the Queen's enrolment quota suggestion would be positively entertained by Brock although it was recognised that extensive difficulties would be encountered in attempting to achieve system-wide cooperation in this regard.

ii) General/Honours Distinction

At Brock the difference between honours and general students was based entirely on grades achieved. Better than 50% of undergraduate Science students fell into the honours stream.

The average Arts and Science undergraduate weight at Brock in the current year was approximately 1.5.

5-0202 TUITION FEES

Brock expressed preference for the retention of the Board prerogative to set tuition fees although in practice saw little likelihood of changing present fee levels.

5-0203 STUDENT SUPPORT

The delegation pointed out that Brock was unable to compete with more established universities which were able to pay the \$3,000 maximum for graduate assistants.

With regard to the Ontario Graduate Scholarship Programme, it was pointed out that last year Brock had been unable to fill its quota of institutional awards due to difficulties encountered in the selection process but did not anticipate a reoccurrence of this situation. The institutional quota was considered very valuable and especially helpful to small universities in the development of their graduate programmes.

The delegation suggested that the level of OGS's should be considered and recommended by COU on the advice of OCGS. Brock gave preference to maintaining the number of awards, as opposed to decreasing the number in order to increase the level of stipend. As well, it was felt that a good argument existed for automatic renewal of scholarships to individuals who had been doing acceptable work, although it was recognised that this would reduce the number of awards available to first-time applicants.

5-0204 ACCESSIBILITY

i) Grade 12 Entrants

The screening process used by Brock in selecting grade 12 applicants recommended by a high school official involved the screening of each application by a Brock selection committee to ensure that early entrance would be in the student's best interest. The academic record of a student was not the only criterion for selection and it was stressed that students applying directly without the recommendation

of a high school official would not be considered. Approximately 50% of students admitted to the programme came from within commuting distance; the remainder originated from elsewhere in the Province. Brock had found that students entering the university stream directly from grade 12 generally had a high success record. The University did not wish to discontinue this programme. Brock had not, and did not intend to, seek funding for the advance summer session undertaken by grade 12 entrants. However, it was pointed out that when these students entered the regular undergraduate stream it was necessary for Brock to specifically request funding for them.

ii) Professional Schools

The delegation noted that COU had found some evidence to indicate that students from institutions with law schools were more likely to be admitted into those programmes.

iii) Student Preparedness

First year students at Brock in the coming year would be required to take cooperative English tests in order to facilitate placement. The delegation noted that the cooperative tests would not be used for selection purposes and that the procedure had been mounted in response to faculty concern and student recognition of difficulty with English usage. It was felt that secondary school English teachers had recognised, but were powerless to correct, the diminishing levels of literacy in students. The University indicated its intention to implement a remedial English course.

5-0205

SYSTEM-WIDE COORDINATION

Brock's success in the area of library coordination was felt to be mainly attributable to its size, adaptability, and full utilization of system offerings. In this regard it was pointed out that most other universities had maintained internal library systems in parallel

with coordination projects. At Brock such duplicate processing had not been undertaken and hence greater cost savings were realised. The delegation suggested that the catalogue support system receive MCU support until such time as it became completely operational.

With regard to computer coordination the delegation pointed out that for small universities links with larger installations elsewhere often cost more than maintenance of one's own facility. Brock reported the commencement of regional initiatives in this area.

5-0206

GRADUATE STUDIES

The delegation urged that smaller universities, having once submitted five year plans, should now be allowed to complete three year plans consistent with other institutions.

5-0207

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

i) Operating

The delegation reported that Brock had been able to maintain service levels in 1974-75 and expected to do so in 1975-76. However, concern was expressed about the future should funding levels not improve.

It was stressed that the University had made a deliberate effort to reach a viable size and, through growth, had reduced its need for supplementary support. However, it was emphasized that if future growth were not fully funded, Brock would of necessity continue to seek supplementary assistance.

ii) Capital

Supplementary documentation concerning the Glenridge building was circulated and is attached as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes. In the discussion of this area of concern it was pointed out that currently under the interim capital formula Brock had a negative entitlement related to excess capacity in lecture theatre space, offices, etc.

However, it was noted that this space was not convertible for scientific use and hence not suitable for relocation of the departments currently housed in the Glenridge building. It was also pointed out that the difficulties were anticipated in the sale of the Glenridge property because the area had been rezoned for residential use.

5-0208

STATUS OF WOMEN

It was noted that at Brock many women on staff held intermediate management positions.

N. E. Simmons
.....
N. E. Simmons
Associate Secretary

J. S. Dupré
.....
J. S. Dupré
Chairman

THE GLENRIDGE CAMPUS

The Glenridge building, a former refrigerator factory over a mile from the main campus, in which the University began in 1964, has outlived its usefulness as a temporary facility during construction of the main campus. Glenridge is now occupied by the Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Physics in some 44,000 net assignable square feet (NASF), and the central technical services shops (4,000 NASF) which serve departments on both campuses. The building has served its purpose well and excellent work has been done in it, but it is expensive to operate, increasingly difficult to maintain, and too small for the three departments occupying it. The physical separation means that a bus service must be provided, but difficulties in scheduling remain.

Close contact and easy association between departments, which for both faculty and students should be among the most attractive features of the small university, are seriously inhibited.

The condition of the Glenridge building is such that boilers, roofs, drainage, ventilation, water and electrical supplies will all require attention or replacement in the next few years at a cost of \$250,000-\$500,000 depending on their extent, and some modifications are needed annually. Yet, as members of the Architectural Services Branch of the Ministry have advised, we should not be spending further money on the building but, rather, phasing it out. The existing facility was never designed with the thought of permanent occupancy, but rather as a temporary, reasonably flexible arrangement of laboratories with an expected lifetime of 10-15 years. Repairs can only serve to extend the life of

the building; they cannot make it suitable as a permanent facility, nor will they have any effect on the lack of space.

Glenridge does not meet present standards for space, services, or more seriously, safety. Replacement of the three departmental facilities to today's standards, based on last year's (1974-75) enrolment and with no provision for new programs, would require almost 70,000 net assignable square feet, much of this of the most heavily serviced and thus the most expensive kind, and a total of 75,000 NASF if the shops are included. Were there assurance of provincial support Brock University's Board of Trustees would be disposed to invest a significant portion of the \$2,000,000 remaining in the Founding Fund in this project, to which could be added whatever might be realized from the sale of the Glenridge property.

But this cannot be done without a commitment from the Province. Recent experience suggests that the cost of construction of science facilities will now exceed \$100.00 per net assignable square foot. An allowance for the Glenridge building at this rate, when combined with some advance on entitlement and a contribution from the Founding Fund, would make the project feasible.